

REMARKS

Response is hereby made to the Final Office Action dated May 12, 2004 under 37 CFR § 1.116. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the above amendments and to reconsider the final rejections. By this Response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 3-8, 18, 25, 42, 90, 93, 96-97, 105, 107, 111-112 and 116, and has cancelled claims 2, 26-41, 91-92, 102-104 and 106 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3-90, and 93-101 and 105 and 107-116 (6 independent and 95 dependent, a total of 101 claims) are pending in this Application. No new matter is added by this Response.

Although no additional fees or extensions of time are believed to be required at this time, the Commissioner is authorized and requested to grant such extension and/or to debit any fees that may be required (including any fees for additional claims or extensions of time) from Deposit Account No. 50-2117 to avoid abandonment of this Application.

Specification

The Office Action objects to Applicant's use of trademarked terminology, stating that such language requires a "TM" symbol. Without consenting to the rejections, Applicant has inserted the TM symbol where appropriate in the interest of speedy allowance. Reconsideration is requested.

Claim Objections

Applicant has made numerous formalistic changes to the claims (e.g. conforming language to amendments in parent claims). These amendments are strictly for cosmetic reasons and are not made for purposes relating to patentability. Applicant therefore does not wish to surrender any range of legal equivalents to which it would otherwise be entitled.

The Office Action also objects to claims 96 and 97 as containing trademark language without a "TM" symbol. Without consenting to the rejection, Applicant has inserted the requested symbol in the interest of speedy allowance. Reconsideration is requested.

Prior Art Rejections

The Office Action rejects the various claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103, citing US Patent No. 5,680,547 ("Chang") alone and in combination with other references. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in that the references fail to disclose each and every element of the claims.

Applicants are extremely grateful for the courtesy extended by Examiner Choudhury in the telephonic interview on July 1, 2004. Without consenting to the rejections contained

in the Final Office Action, Applicant has attempted to address the issues discussed in the interview with this Response, and believes that the present Application is now in condition for Allowance. In particular, each of the remaining independent claims now recites to the effect that the server provides an application that determines attributes in a pre-boot environment. Many of the dependent claims more fully define the "attributes" as pertaining to, e.g., manufacturer name, model, hardware configuration, file structures, registry data, etc. Such attributes may be matched to templates, for example, at the server to execute customized administrative tasks for computers having the appropriate attributes. Various claims recite that the preboot attribute determination program is provided via the network interface card found in the client computer. None of these features are expressly or impliedly described in any of the art of record, nor in any combinations thereof.

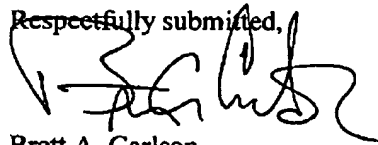
Applicant has amended the claims for the sole purposes of clarification and speedy allowance, and does not wish to disclaim any subject matter by this response. Applicant expressly reserves the right to re-instate any cancelled claims or amended subject matter in a continuation application or other appropriate document. Moreover, because the amendments presented herein simply clarify the previously-pending language and because the amendments incorporate elements that were previously pending in, e.g., claims 2 and 42, it is respectfully believed that the amendments may be properly entered after final rejection.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (480) 385-5060 or bcarlson@ifllaw.com.

Dated

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Respectfully submitted,


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